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IF TROUBLE COMES

A veteran observer can detect now behind the scenes in this nation's capital a tense, loaded atmosphere resulting from current exciting developments in the international sphere and the man-in-the-street across this country ought to know that all-important diplomatic discussions, particularly between Washington and Ottawa are going on in such a way as to hint, though not always publicized, not only about regional defence pacts in case of war but about extension of armed co-operation between United States, Canada and the Western European countries.

While these are supposed to be polite, diplomatic discussions on United States-Canadian associations with Western European security arrangements, yet exciting activities in Ottawa and Washington involving the Canadian Ambassador in the US capital as well as top officials of the Canadian External Affairs Department here, suggest the importance of the whole situation now and the importance of these talks.

Furthermore, for the man in the street unaccustomed to diplomatic manners of such dealings it may not mean as much as to a veteran observer along Parliament Hill. However, he can be assured, significantly enough, that there is no longer any great effort being made along Parliament Hill to conceal the purpose of these discussions or exchange of views either about United States-Canadian co-operation on defence on a regional basis in this hemisphere or their association with the Western European security arrangements. Everything is more and more in the open now, with this being extremely important.

In fact, External Affairs Minister St. Laurent has gone on record here with a declaration which hints of things to come when he said that "there is no paper agreement but we are potential allies if trouble comes", openly stating that the world is not satisfied with the "helpless, frustrated and hemmed in Security Council which is prevented from taking actions required for security and that "Canada has a working agreement with the United States" so that "a threat to one of us is a threat to the hemisphere which neither will pass by."

In addition Defence Minister Claxton has made a blunt statement here that "the United States and Canada have a common interest and a common defence and we can solve our problems and achieve our ends better together than we can alone", emphasizing at the same time that "our common interest is that of the preservation of our freedom and the right to our own way of life on this continent without interference from any nation". It should not be difficult to guess what both spokesmen for the Canadian Government meant and whom they were suggesting as possible enemies "if trouble comes". And Canada and her allies will be ready "if trouble comes" is the interpretation here in this capital about the present discussion on the diplomatic, even if not on the governmental level.

DON'T EXPECT TOO MUCH

It is no longer any secret that taxpayers across this country are dreaming about some sensational cuts in the Canadian Government's tax bills because the Government has been writing down huge surpluses now and still not reducing the taxes as generally anticipated in pre-war days when such surpluses or nearly such surpluses existed. Then again, report after report has been circulating that the Government in Ottawa is probably saving that big tax cut for an "election year" when it would prove a vote-catching device to spring an appeal to the people at the same time as sensational tax cuts.

However, this may turn out to be really a dream for many taxpayers.



Dorothy Davies, Vancouver actress who will be heard in a leading part in this week's broadcast of the CBC drama series Behold This Land, on Sunday, July 11, at 8:00 p.m. MDT on the Trans-Canada network. The second of a group of dramas by the Canadian writer Yves Thériault, the play is called The Woman From the South.

depending too much upon these reports or interpretations of policy, judging from observations "on the spot" in this capital. More and more social security measures are in the making in Canada, it is stressed in well informed quarters here, so that high tax levels are likely to accompany such plans. Already the government here has to face large sums in payment for old age pensions, for obligations under the broad Veterans Charter, for family allowances which cost this year alone \$267 millions for a national health program etc. In short the Canadian government is planning social security measures which will cost more than has been spent ever before in history and more are coming so that a high tax level is bound to prevail on a higher position than generally considered likely in pre-war days when surpluses were recorded on a proportional basis, in face of reports about sensational tax cuts being kept ready for "election year", according to observations here.

SAID IN THE CAPITAL

"I shall still remain in the office of Prime Minister", said Premier King, making clear the difference between leadership of a party and leadership of a government, with the former post being given to him by the party but the latter by the Crown, suggesting that it might be "two or three months" after the party convention here before he would be giving up the post of Prime Minister.

"We're on the march" declared CCF leader M. J. Coldwell at a "Victory Banquet" here celebrating recent by-election victories of his party.

"Canada is not striving to become a self sufficient nation shutting off the rest of the world from her markets" stressed Mines and Resources Minister James McKinnon in an address in this capital.

"As a soldier I would welcome more expenditures on the Air Force" stated Maj. Gen. G. R. Pearkes, MP VC, discussing expenditures by Canada on her forces.

"In every year of the last 48 years we have had an unfavorable balance of trade with the United States and the total unfavorable balance or loss on our American trade in 30 years has been over \$10 billion", said Hon. John Bracken.

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